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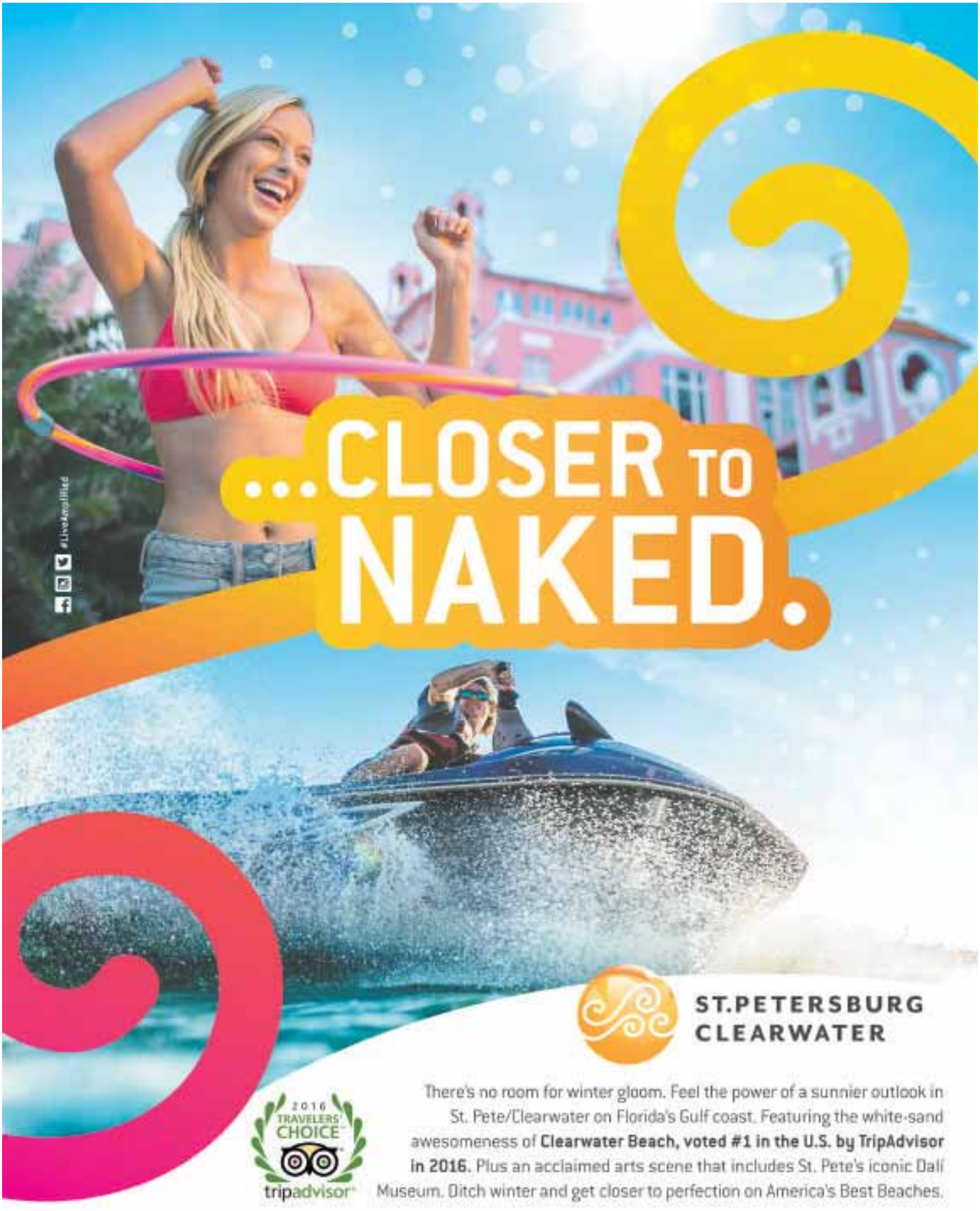

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New York could be 'Upset City' as March Madness kicks off today. 25

PIGEONS ARE MODERN DINOSAURS

Touch, hear and explore the evolution of dinosaurs into birds. 21

Eugenio Derbez gets his Hollywood moment. 18

'EACH OF US HAS A VOICE'

Queens resident Angy Rivera, a former undocumented immigrant, sex assault survivor and activist, will be honored next month by the American Immigration Council. 2

MARI KEELER CORNWELL

3 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

US STUDENT SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS HARD LABOR IN N. KOREA

North Korea's supreme court sentenced American student Otto Warmbier, who was arrested while visiting the country, to 15 years of hard labor on Wednesday for crimes against the state. Warmbier, a 21-year-old University of Virginia student, was detained in January for trying to steal an item bearing a propaganda slogan from his hotel in Pyongyang, North Korean media said previously. "The accused confessed to the serious offense against the DPRK he had committed, pursuant to the U.S. government's hostile policy toward it, in a bid to impair the unity of its people after entering it as a tourist," the state-controlled KCNA news agency reported, using the acronym for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. REUTERS

BELGIUM NAMES DEAD GUNMAN

2 Belgian authorities identified the gunman killed in a raid targeting suspects in the Paris attacks as a 35-year-old Algerian and said police had detained two others while finding an Islamic State flag at the scene. Investigators believe much of the planning and preparation for the Nov. 13 shooting and bombing rampage in Paris that killed 130 people was conducted in Brussels by young French and Belgian nationals, some of whom fought as militants in Syria. On Tuesday, six Belgian and French police officers arrived to search a flat in a Brussels suburb and came under a barrage of automatic weapons fire through a door from at least two people barricaded inside, injuring four officers. A special forces sniper shot dead gunman Mohamed Belkaid when he tried to fire at police from a window, prosecutors said. REUTERS

DC COMMUTERS FIGHT TRAFFIC AMID SUBWAY SHUTDOWN

3 Washington, D.C. area commuters battled heavy traffic in cars, on bicycles and aboard crowded buses on Wednesday as the second-busiest U.S. subway system shut down for emergency safety checks. Some of the estimated 700,000 people who ride the Washington-area Metro system on a typical weekday complained that they had little time to prepare after the unprecedented shutdown was announced late on Tuesday afternoon. It is intended to give safety crews time to inspect 600 underground cables that could pose a fire risk. The shutdown also raised concerns about the safety of a system that has long been plagued by smoky tunnels, breakdowns and deadly accidents. REUTERS

Video still from "Don't Tell Anyone." Below is Rivera. PROVIDED

Queens woman to be honored for work with undocumented youth

Angy Rivera, of Queens, has shared her story of being a former undocumented youth and victim of sexual assault in hopes of helping others.

ANGY ALTAMIRANO
@MetroNewYork
letters@metro.us

Growing up, Angy Rivera held on to two secrets that she was afraid of revealing, but now the once-undocumented youth is being recognized for tossing fear aside and using her story to inspire others.

Rivera will be receiving the American Immigration Council's 2016 Immigrant Youth Achievement Award, which will be presented at the council's annual award ceremony on April 7 in Washington, D.C.

The award is given to one individual — chosen from nominations from throughout the country — whose personal and professional accomplishments illustrate the positive contributions young immigrants make to the country.

The 25-year-old was selected as the winner of the award for her strength, hard work, dedication and advocacy for the immigrant and undocumented youth community in New York City.

"It all happened fairly quickly. I wasn't expecting it," Rivera said about winning. "This community work, we don't do it for the recognition and awards, but it's nice when someone recognizes you. I feel honored and excited."

The Flushing, Queens, resident was an undocumented immigrant for 19 years before coming to the United States with her mother from Colombia when she was only 4 years old.

After spending years being afraid of coming out as undocumented, Rivera revealed her immigration status publicly and has continuously worked with other undocumented youth throughout the city.

Rivera also began the first undocumented youth advice column in 2010 and is currently a core member of the New York State Youth Leadership Council — the first volunteer undocumented youth and membership led organization.

In 2015, Rivera's journey was captured in the documentary "No Le Digas A Nadie (Don't Tell Anyone)" by film director Mikaela Shwer — who actually nominated Rivera for the award.

Along with following Rivera through her everyday life and focusing on the relationship she has with her mother, the film also surrounds Rivera opening up about being a victim of sexual assault.

The title of the film, originates from a poem Rivera once wrote in which she talks about how since a young girl she was told not to tell anyone about what was going on in her life.

The documentary — which has been screened in numerous cities and aired on PBS — not only allowed Rivera to open up about her past but also allowed others, who might be in the same situation, to share their stories.

"We always have to remember that each of us has a voice, has power and has something to contribute," she said.

Rivera said she is nervous to take the stage in April to receive her award but feels honored that others are recognizing her — along with other individuals — for the work they are doing.

She added that she will continue to work with undocumented youth through the work she does with the New York State Youth Leadership Council and also plans to soon start an immigrant women's initiative where women citywide are able to share their stories through writing.

"We're here and people are listening to us," Rivera said. "And it's nice to get recognition for the work that we are doing."

"We don't do it for the recognition and awards, but it's nice when someone recognizes you."
Rivera

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Fulton Center gets LEED rating

Half of the energy used at the subway hub comes from renewable sources.

ANGY ALTAMIRANO
@MetroNewYork
letters@metro.us

One Manhattan subway station is making history — and all for being a good friend to the planet.

The MTA announced Wednesday that the agency's Fulton Center station — located on Broadway between Fulton and Dey streets — has been awarded the LEED Silver rating.

LEED — which stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design — is the most used third-party certification for green buildings. The rating system was developed by the U.S. Green Building Council and is the primary program for buildings, homes, and communities which are designed, constructed, maintained and operated for enhanced environmental and human health performance.

"The Fulton Center has been the recipient of a number of awards and honors, but this designation is truly special," said Michael Horodniceanu, MTA Capital Construction (MTACC) president. "It shows how we married the old with the new to create a state-of-the-art transportation hub, shopping destination and office facility while keeping the environment top of mind."

Fulton Center DAVID SUNDBERG

Fulton Center is the first subway station in New York to receive the special rating. Other MTA locations that have received such a certification include Mother Clara Hale Bus Depot in Harlem, the Corona Maintenance Shop in Queens and Metro-North Railroad's office building at 525 North Broadway in White Plains.

According to the MTA, the Fulton Center was designed "as a demonstration of an environmentally responsible 21st century rail transit center."

It was given LEED certification back on its implementation of practical and measurable strategies in sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.

The Fulton facility reaches over 25 percent in energy savings compared to a baseline building of the same type and half of the energy used at the location comes from renewable sources.

Daylight that enters the location — which is enclosed in a glass and steel shell — reduces the use of electricity and low flow plumbing fixtures lower water use by 40 percent.

Fulton Center accommodates close to 300,000 customers daily and is home to the 2, 3, 4, 5, A, C, J, Z and R subway lines.

Construction of the location included the restoration of the 125-year-old Corbin Building, which will provide extra public access. The Fulton Center also has close to 66,000 square feet of retail and commercial space and the MTA's largest digital media program.

The facility also includes 10 newly installed escalators and 15 American with Disabilities Act elevators. The public restrooms also include two ADA-accessible bathrooms on the concourse and the street level.

BRIEF

Tampon tax ban passes NY state Assembly

New York state's Assembly has banned the taxation of tampons and other feminine hygiene products.

The legislation is the result of a class-action lawsuit citing the "double standard that applies the sales tax to menstrual products used by women while exempting items typically used by men, such as Rogaine and condoms," Reuters explained earlier this month.

The legislation now heads to the Republican-controlled Senate, where it is expected to pass, according to the New York Daily News.

Earlier this week, the New York City Council announced that select city public schools will offer free feminine hygiene products to students as a part of a pilot program that could go citywide. MATTHEW LEE

Limo driver to be charged in LI crash that killed four women

The driver behind the wheel of the limousine involved in a fatal Long Island crash last year that left four women dead — and four others injured — faced criminal charges Wednesday afternoon, according to reports.

Carlos Pino, 58, was set to be arraigned in court on four charges of criminally negligent homicide, four counts of assault, failure to yield the right of way, reckless driving and other traffic violations, CBS2 New York reported.

On July 18, eight friends were in Pino's limousine after finishing touring local wineries for a friend's birthday when a pickup truck crashed into the vehicle, which had been making a U-turn at the time, according to CBS2.

Brittney Schulman, 23, Lauren Baruch, 24, Stephanie Belli, 23, and Amy Grabina, 23, were killed in the accident, the New York Post reported. The four other women in the limo were injured.

The only individual previously charged in the crash was the pickup truck's driver, 55-year-old Steven Romeo, according to the Post. Romeo allegedly told the police he was drinking at home before starting to drive. He was later charged with driving while intoxicated.

According to Suffolk County District Attorney Thomas Spota, Romeo could not see the limo pulling into the intersection ahead of him until he was 200 feet away because of a Jeep that was waiting to turn left, CBS2 reported.

The crash YOUTUBE, CBS

"A perfectly sober Steven Romeo could not avoid this crash. An intoxicated Steven Romeo could not avoid this crash. It was simply unavoidable from Romeo's perspective," Spota told CBS2.

However, according to Spota, Pino did not take any extra precautions to make sure he could safely make a U-turn even after noticing he has limited sight into opposite traffic, CBS2 reported.

Both men were expected to be arraigned Wednesday afternoon. ANGY ALTAMIRANO

BRIEF

After-hours club attack leaves five wounded, suspect at large

A brawl at a Manhattan after-hours club has left five people with injuries and two suspects at large.

Just before 6 a.m. on Wednesday, a possible basement pool hall at Amsterdam Avenue and West 171th Street in Washington Heights was the scene of an attack that resulted in stabbing and slashing injuries for five people, ABC7 reported.

Of the five victims, a 30-year-old man was slashed in the neck and a 44-year-old woman was stabbed in the abdomen, according to the New York Daily News. Both were taken to Mount Sinai St. Luke's Hospital, where one of them has been listed in serious condition and the other in stable condition.

An 18-year-old man's chest was slashed, and two men, 24 and 31, suffered stab wounds to their stomachs, the Daily News added.

Police were seeking two suspects in connection to the attack, CBS2 added in a related report. JASON NUCKOLLS

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Inside Look: Live where Marilyn Monroe once slept

444 E. 57th St. exists in a "prewar condominium in the prestigious Sutton Place neighborhood."

CRISTABELLE TUMOLA
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444 E. 57th St., apartment 13F DOUGLAS ELLIMAN PHOTOGRAPHY

Have you ever dreamed of sleeping next to Marilyn Monroe?

You can — in a way — at this Sutton Place apartment, but you'll need to get rid of your superstitions first.

According to a 2011 New York Times profile on Monroe's private and public life, the famed actress moved into an apartment on the 13th floor of the building at 444 E. 57th St. right after she married Arthur Miller.

She had previously been renting an apartment at 2 Sutton Place, according to the Times, "not far from 36 Sutton Place (at 55th Street), the classy digs in 'How to Marry a Millionaire,' in which she played the myopic, diamond-seeking Pola."

The couple stayed in the home until 1961 when they divorced, according to the Times. It was where Miller wrote the final draft of "The Misfits."

As for Monroe, "she often took her Maltese terrier, Maf (short for Mafia Honey), for walks to the park on Sutton Place. They would sit on a bench and gaze at the East River, Maf recalls in his ghosted memoirs ('The Life and Opinions of Maf the Dog, and of His Friend Marilyn Monroe,' by Andrew O'Hagan, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2010), and she would 'stare into space and mention names,'" the Times described.

In addition to Monroe and Miller, other notables from the 1927 building's residential past include late fashion designer Bill Blass, cabaret singer Bobby Short and most recently a Swedish princess, according to real estate firm Douglas Elliman.

Elliman just listed a unit in this pre-war condominium on the 13th floor, a number, for obvious reasons, not found in many buildings.

Famous residents

The affluent area itself is known for its famous residents, as the Times also pointed out, including wealthy families such as the Vanderbilts and Morgans in the early 20th century, and more recently United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon.

The floor only has two units — the other one was once occupied by Monroe.

The apartment, listed at $6,295,000, boasts high-beamed ceilings and a wood-burning fireplace. With four bedrooms and four and a half bathrooms, the home also features a peek-a-boo view of the Empire and Chrysler buildings

Elliman adds that the unit's 13th floor isn't only a rarity, but also the fact that it exists in a "prewar condominium in the prestigious Sutton Place neighborhood."

Surveillance images of the suspects NYPD

NYPD seeks two suspects in possible Ninth Ave. hate crime

The NYPD is looking for two individuals in connection to an assault that left one man hospitalized.

Around 4:45 a.m. on Tuesday, March 8, a 36-year-old man was in front of 765 Ninth Ave. when he was approached by two suspects, police officials have reported.

Those two suspects then assaulted the victim while invoking his sexual orientation, police stated, adding that the suspects fled the scene after the incident.

The victim was taken to St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital and treated for a fractured nose and facial injuries, according to the NYPD.

Police have released images of two individuals taken from a nearby surveillance camera whom they would like to identify.

Anyone with information should call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-577-TIPS or visit www.NYPDCrimeStoppers.com.

JASON NUCKOLLS

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Citywide ferry service to make debut in summer '17

By next summer, New Yorkers in growing neighborhoods across the city will have a new way of getting around — and all for the price of one subway ride.

Mayor Bill de Blasio announced Wednesday that the citywide ferry service — expected to connect 21 neighborhoods — is on track to launch by 2017 with Hornblower Inc. as operator.

The citywide service is the first in more than a century and will cost riders the same as a single subway ride.

The ferry will cover more than 60 miles of waterway and will connect neighborhoods in the five boroughs such as Astoria, Rockaway, the Lower East Side and Bay Ridge.

Hornblower will deliver about 18 new Wi-Fi-enabled boats for the ferry service, each of which will be able to carry at least 149 passengers. The boats will be fully accessible for New Yorkers with disabilities and will have engines designed to reduce emissions and noise.

The ferry MAYOR'S OFFICE

"We have already begun work to deliver a ferry system by the summer of 2017 which will revolutionize the way New Yorkers work, live and play, and we are confident this new system will become a local favorite for decades to come," said Terry MacRae, CEO of Hornblower.

The fare includes free transfers to any other ferry route within the system, such as the East River ferry. Tickets will be available as both paper or through a smartphone and discounts will be given to seniors, children and New Yorkers with disabilities. There is a $1 charge for bringing a bicycle aboard.

The first routes scheduled to launch in 2017 are in Rockaway, connecting in connect to the Brooklyn Army Terminal and Wall Street; south Brooklyn, connecting to Bay Ridge, Brooklyn Army Terminal, Red Hook, Brooklyn Bridge Park's Pier 1 and Pier 6 and Wall Street — with a optional route to Governors Island; and Astoria, connecting to Roosevelt Island (Cornell Tech), Long Island City, East 34th Street and Wall Street.

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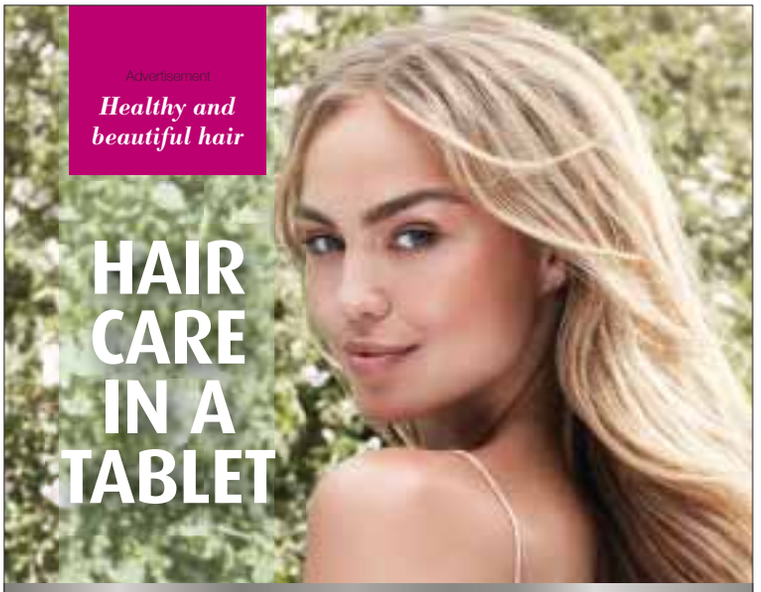

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BRIEF

Friendly fire that killed Maryland officer was deliberately aimed: Police
The shot that killed a Maryland plainclothes detective during a gunfight with a suspect with a history of mental illness was deliberately aimed at him by another officer in a "tragic" misunderstanding, a police official said on Wednesday.

Prince George's County Police Chief Henry Stawinski told reporters that the act was not malicious, and said on Twitter he did not believe the officer who fired the fatal shot had deliberately targeted a fellow officer.

"It's another tragic dimension to this unfolding story," Stawinski told a news conference. "The environment was incredibly chaotic. We had officers under fire immediately trying to seek cover."

On Sunday, Prince George's County Police Officer First Class Jacai Colson, 28, who was off duty, died following a gunfight that began when a man with a history of mental illness began shooting outside a police station near Washington, D.C., as his two brothers videotaped the action, authorities said.

Stawinski declined to say if Colson was mistaken for a suspect.

The accused gunman, 22-year-old Michael Ford of Landover, Maryland, faces 25 criminal counts in connection with the shooting, State's Attorney Angela Alsobrooks told the news conference.

His brothers, 21-year-old Malik Ford and 18-year-old Elijah Ford, drove him to police headquarters and each face 10 charges, including three first-degree assault charges and six attempted murder charges, as well as conspiracy to commit murder, Alsobrooks said. REUTERS

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A pedicab driver talks with his tourist passengers. GETTY IMAGES

Pedicab drivers sue New York over ticketing

Six weeks ago, Mayor Bill de Blasio abandoned a plan to restrict where pedicabs could go in Central Park as part of a program to curb the number of horse-drawn carriages.

Pedicab operators on Tuesday filed a lawsuit accusing New York City of harassing them with excessive ticketing, in an effort to drive them out of business.

The lawsuit was filed in Manhattan federal court by Capitol Pedicabs LLC, which said it owns licenses for 30 pedicabs, and Bourama Camera, who said he stopped driving pedicabs after eight years because it had become "impossible" to earn a living.

They said the city has subjected pedicab drivers to a "targeted ticketing campaign" that started in 2011, when its Department of Consumer Affairs began adding inspectors to issue more tickets and help curb budget shortfalls.

The complaint said New York City has since violated the U.S. Constitution by harassing drivers with "suspicionless" stops and seizures, and caused licenses to become "essentially worthless" because excess fines could lead to license suspensions.

Pedicabs have three wheels and are powered by drivers' legs to carry tourists and other passengers around New York.

The city "has engaged in extra ticketing not just to extract more revenue, but to put a type of operation it doesn't favor out of business," plaintiffs' lawyer Austin Brown said in a telephone interview.

He added that pedicab licenses might once have fetched five-figure sums, noting that now "I don't think you can give them away."

A spokesman for the city's law department said: "The merits of each of these claims will be reviewed."

The mayor and New York's police, consumer affairs and parks departments were also named as defendants.

The lawsuit seeks unspecified damages and a halt to the alleged illegal stops and seizures.

The case is Capitol Pedicabs LLC et al v. City of New York et al, U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York, No. 16-01925. REUTERS

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Group protests Trump's rhetoric

Members of MoveOn.org Political Action stand outside the studios of "Good Morning America" to broadcast messages of love, dignity, and equality and stand up against the hate, racism and incitement of violence that the group says has become a hallmark of Donald Trump's presidential campaign. GETTY IMAGES

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FEMA denies Michigan governor's appeal for more federal funds

Federal officials have denied Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder's request to give the city of Flint additional funds to help deal with its lead-contaminated water crisis, his office said on Wednesday.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency, in a March 14 letter to Snyder, rejected the governor's appeal of the agency's initial denial, saying the funds he was asking for were not appropriate to the situation. A copy of FEMA's response was supplied by Snyder's office.

"It is recognized that substantial costs have been incurred at the state and local levels in responding to the health concerns associated with the water contamination," FEMA associate administrator Elizabeth Zimmerman said in the letter.

Donations of bottled water in Flint, Michigan. GETTY IMAGES

"The assistance FEMA has provided and continues to provide is intended to address the immediate emergency needs."

The crisis has drawn national attention along with intense criticism of Snyder, who will testify in Congress about the crisis on Thursday.

The Republican governor said he was disappointed to be rejected again, arguing that help was needed from all levels of government.

Flint, a predominantly African-American city of 100,000 about 60 miles northwest of Detroit, switched its water supply from the Detroit water system to the Flint River in April 2014 to cut costs. The river's corrosive water leached lead from city pipes, creating a public health threat marked by high lead levels in blood samples taken from children.

Lead is a toxic agent that can damage the nervous system.

The water supply was switched back to the Detroit system last October.

On Tuesday, the same House committee that will hear from Snyder criticized the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Michigan officials for failing to do more about the crisis. REUTERS

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Obama picks centrist high court nominee; Republicans unmoved

President Barack Obama selected Merrick Garland for the U.S. Supreme Court on Wednesday, choosing a centrist judge meant to win over recalcitrant Senate Republicans whose leaders wasted no time in spurning the Democratic president.

A bruising political fight is brewing over the nomination, which also promises to figure in the already contentious campaign ahead of the Nov. 8 presidential election. The Republican-led Senate's leaders have vowed not to hold confirmation hearings or an up-or-down vote on any Obama nominee.

Garland, 63, was picked to replace long-serving conservative Justice Antonin Scalia, who died on Feb. 13. A Chicagoan like Obama, he serves as chief judge of the influential U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and is a former prosecutor who in the past has won praise from both Republicans and Democrats.

President Barack Obama applauds his Supreme Court justice nominee Merrick Garland in the Rose Garden at the White House. GETTY IMAGES

Republicans, hoping a candidate from their party wins the presidential election, are demanding that Obama leave the seat vacant and let his successor, to be sworn in next January, make the selection. Billionaire businessman Donald Trump is leading among Republicans for the nomination. Obama's former secretary of state, Hillary Clinton, is the front-runner for the Democrats.

The lifetime appointment to the high court requires Senate confirmation.

Obama said Republican senators should give Garland a fair hearing, saying that failing to do so "will not only be an abdication of the Senate's constitutional duty, it will indicate a process for nominating and confirming judges that is beyond repair."

Such a move would undermine the reputation of the Supreme Court and faith in the American justice system. "Our democracy will ultimately suffer as well," Obama added, as he introduced Garland at a White House Rose Garden ceremony.

Scalia's death left the nine-member Supreme Court evenly split with four liberals and four conservative justices. Obama's nominee could tilt the court to the left for the first time in decades, which could affect rulings on contentious issues including abortion, gun rights, the death penalty and political spending. REUTERS

Senate will not consider

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky swiftly reiterated that the Senate will not consider the nomination by the president. A McConnell spokesman said the senator had spoken by phone with Garland and would not hold a "perfunctory meeting" with him.

"It seems clear that President Obama made this nomination not with the intent of seeing the nominee confirmed, but in order to politicize it for purposes of the election," McConnell said on the Senate floor.

John Cornyn of Texas, the second-ranking Senate Republican, added, "This person will not be confirmed, so there's no reason going through some motions and pretending like it will happen, because it's not going to happen."

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Ex-Subway pitchman beaten in prison: TMZ

Ex-Subway pitchman Jared Fogle GETTY IMAGES

Former Subway sandwich chain pitchman Jared Fogle, who is serving a sentence for child pornography and sex offenses, was beaten in a Colorado federal prison in late January by another inmate, according to TMZ.

Prisons officials and a lawyer for Fogle did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

In December, Fogle, who became famous after losing weight on a diet that included sandwiches from the fast-food chain, appealed his 15-1/2-year sentence.

He pleaded guilty on Nov. 19 to charges of child pornography and traveling for illicit paid sex with minors.

TMZ reported that Fogle suffered a bloody nose, swollen face and scratches on his neck after being beaten on Jan. 29 in a recreation yard by inmate Steven Nigg.

Nigg, who is in custody on a weapons charge, got a small cut on his left hand in the fight and was put in solitary confinement as punishment, TMZ said.

The low-security Englewood prison located in Littleton, Colorado, has a population of 959 inmates, according to the Federal Bureau of Prisons website.

REUTERS

BRIEF

Suspended UN diplomat pleads guilty in US bribery case

A suspended deputy United Nations ambassador from the Dominican Republic pleaded guilty on Wednesday to charges that he participated in a scheme to bribe a former U.N. General Assembly president.

Francis Lorenzo, 48, admitted in federal court in Manhattan that he engaged in conspiracies to commit bribery and money laundering, as part of an agreement to cooperate in the U.S. investigation.

Lorenzo admitted he facilitated bribe payments from Ng Lap Seng, a billionaire real estate developer in Macau, to John Ashe, a former U.N. ambassador from Antigua and Barbuda and who served as General Assembly president from 2013 to 2014.

Those bribes, Lorenzo admitted, were paid to Ashe to seek United Nations support of a U.N.-sponsored conference center in Macau. Lorenzo, who prosecutors said received bribes himself from Ng, said payments were also made to other unnamed foreign officials.

Lorenzo is the third defendant to plead guilty to charges arising out of a case U.S. prosecutors announced in October involving a scheme starting in 2011 to pay more than $1.3 million in bribes to Ashe.

Prosecutors said those bribes included more than $500,000 that Ng, who made the payment through intermediaries including Lorenzo and Jeff Yin, Ng's assistant.

REUTERS

"I understand what I was doing, as I described it, was wrong."

Lorenzo said in court

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RACE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE

Trump warns of 'riots' if denied GOP nomination

Trump might fall short of the majority required, enabling the party's establishment to put forward another name at the July convention to formally pick its candidate.

Horses line up against protestors at the University of Illinois. GETTY IMAGES

Republican front-runner Donald Trump warned on Wednesday of riots if he is denied the party's presidential nomination after a string of primary election victories, raising the temperature even more in a heated White House race.

The outspoken billionaire New York businessman scored big wins in primaries in Florida, Illinois and North Carolina on Tuesday, knocking out rival Marco Rubio and bringing him closer to the 1,237 convention delegates he needs to win the nomination.

But Trump lost the crucial state of Ohio and left the door open for those in the party trying to stop him from becoming the Republican nominee for the Nov. 8 election.

In an interview with CNN on Wednesday, Trump said the party could not deny him the nomination should he fail to win enough delegates.

"I don't think you can say that we don't get it automatically. I think you'd have riots. I think you'd have riots. I'm representing many, many millions of people."

While the Republican race became mired deeper in turmoil, Hillary Clinton won victories in Florida, Illinois, Ohio and North Carolina on Tuesday that cast doubt on Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders' ability to overtake her for the Democratic Party's nomination.

Recent outbreaks of violence at Trump rallies have prompted President Barack Obama, a Democrat, and mainstream Republican figures to speak out against the real estate magnate. REUTERS

Rubio's run had early problems

Marco Rubio had all that you need in a Republican presidential candidate: fluency on the issues, a conservative outlook, crossover appeal as a Cuban-American and youthful good looks.

But in an election year when anyone associated with the Republican establishment is seen as tainted, Rubio ended his campaign after New York real estate mogul Donald Trump won the coveted primary in Rubio's home state of Florida on Tuesday.

How the 44-year-old senator got to this point is a story of miscalculations and missed opportunities, according to interviews with more than a dozen campaign officials, financial donors and Republican strategists.

Rubio attempted to position himself as a new-age Republican, the son of Cuban immigrants who was able to connect with everyday voters with tales of his hard-luck upbringing. He also tried to appeal to America's growing Hispanic population to help boost his party's chances of claiming victory in the Nov. 8 election.

He got off to a difficult start.

His advisers wanted to run a campaign where it made more sense to be on Fox News, a channel popular with Republicans, or on other cable networks and local broadcasters whose clips can go viral on social media, rather than spend a lot of time in small towns in Iowa and New Hampshire.

The early nominating contests there often shape the narrative and direction of presidential elections.

So Rubio made a strategic gamble. He would try a different approach in those two states, strategists familiar with his campaign said. He would try to save time and money by making strategic stops in those states rather than carpet-bomb them with multiple visits.

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Jennifer Garner doesn't want your pity

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Yes, Ben Affleck has a big superhero movie coming out next week, so he's doing a lot of interviews that inevitably lead to mentions of his split from Jennifer Garner. But she also has a movie coming out, which is why, following that in-depth Vanity Fair interview, she's not quite done offering glimpses into what the last year of her life has been like. For instance, the "Today" show's Savannah Guthrie observed that it must be extra difficult to "go through something like that in the public eye" — without a hint of irony! But Garner doesn't want pity. "You know what? It's not easy to go through it, period. I have found going through it in the public eye, it's just another facet of it," she says. "For anyone, when your life shifts in any way, it's tricky enough. But I have found people to be so warm and loving that it hasn't been nearly as bad as you might imagine."

Celine Dion reacts strongly to impersonation

Did you see Ariana Grande's amazing run of impressions of other singers on "Saturday Night Live"? Lots of people did, and they were pretty impressed — if a little freaked out by the apparent witchcraft. This wasn't the singer's first time letting everyone in on her unusual talent. Grande also did a round of singing impressions with Jimmy Fallon, and much like in her "SNL" stint, her Celine Dion was one of the strongest. And you know who totally agrees? Ms. Dion herself. Grande relayed a bit of oversharing from the Quebecois crooner in an interview with iHeart Radio's Elvis Duran. "When I met Celine, she told me," Grande says. "She was like, 'When I saw you [on Fallon], I peed!'" That escalated quickly.

Olivia Wilde is 'too sophisticated'

Hollywood has a whole bunch of fun and interesting euphemisms for criticizing actresses for things out of their control, and Olivia Wilde recently learned a new one. "The funniest thing I heard recently was that I was too sophisticated," she tells Howard Stern. "And I was like, Oh, that sounds nice. I like that feedback. I didn't get the part, but I'm a very sophisticated person. And then I found out later that they actually said 'old.' I want to make a translation sheet for Hollywood that's all the feedback your agents give you and what it really means." That film she was too old for, by the way? "Wolf of Wall Street," for a role that went to Margo Robbie because the then-28 Wilde was too old. But on the bright side, at least she got on Martin Scorsese's radar: "I did not [have to audition for 'Vinyl'] because I had auditioned unsuccessfully for 'Wolf of Wall Street.'"

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Eugenio Derbez comes to Hollywood

GETTY IMAGES

The "Instructions Not Included" star finds laughs in the drama "Miracles from Heaven."

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Eugenio Derbez is a massively successful Mexican writer, director and actor — just ask his 8.4 million Twitter followers — but if he had it his way he'd only be an actor. Luckily that's what he gets to do in "Miracles from Heaven," playing an in-demand pediatric specialist with a penchant for clowning around. He winds up tending to a young girl (Kylie Rogers) who has a rare, incurable abdominal problem, at the behest of her harried mom (Jennifer Garner).

How were you first approached about this project?
It was through Patricia Riggen, the director, because we'd worked together. This is my third movie working with Patricia, and when she called me for this project she said, "You can't say no to this project. This is about a doctor who happens to be about your age, he is Mexican and he treats his patients with a lot of comedy."

Did you bring your own personal comic style?
Of course. Actually, here everyone is scared about lawsuits or whatever, but I have a collection of the most funny ties you can imagine. Like, tons of them. So I brought Patricia all these funny and unique ties, and she went, "But we don't have the rights for all of them." And I said, "But look at them! I bought them in Mexico, nobody's going to sue you!"

Eugenio Derbez plays a doctor trying to help the ill daughter of Jennifer Garner in "Miracles from Heaven." SONY

So we just used the Elmo tie, but it was enough.

Has being a director yourself changed how you work as an actor?
It's absolutely different. I've been directing myself my entire career, and when I come and work with another director I enjoy it very much. When I'm involved in every aspect, I'm always suffering. Every time I see my shows, I can see my eyes. I can see that I'm not acting — I'm directing. I'm more worried about the camera of the other actors than my delivery. So when I have the opportunity to work with people like Patricia, I completely relax. I'm very easygoing, I'm not one of those guys who are giving directions to the director.

How are things different for you here in the U.S. after the success of "Instructions not Included"?
Well, my life changed completely. A lot of doors opened here. I signed a deal with Lionsgate, so we're developing five movies in a row. And then I signed a deal with NBC Universal Television to develop a series. If you find the correct movie or TV series, the Latin audience will show up. There have been a lot mistakes when they've tried to reach that audience. They think that with just some immigrant or narcos themes, you can bring them to the movies, but it's harder than that. You have to know the audience very well.

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'Black Sails' is the show you should be watching

JENNA BUSCH

Geek Girl in Hollywood

Jenna Busch takes on the way pop culture snubs its female fans. For more columns, visit Metro.us/jenna-busch as well as her site, Legion of Leia. (Legionofleia.com)

When I get asked about which shows I watch, I get looks of surprise when I say "The Good Wife" since it's not geeky. I get nods of understanding when I say "Agent Carter," "Star Wars Rebels" and "Game of Thrones." (The cooking shows make people laugh, but that might be because I make everything in the microwave.) However, when I say "Black Sails," people constantly respond with, "Oh, I keep meaning to start watching that one!" Guys, *start watching that one*!

I marathoned the Starz series last year and was hooked in one episode. The series is loosely based on the story of the pirate Long John Silver and his fellow plunderers. Of course, everyone loves pirates, but this one grabbed me not because of actual piracy but because of the way it handles the history of Nassau island and the struggle to create a world that reflects how you want to live.

On "Black Sails," Hannah New plays saloon owner Eleanor Guthrie — one of several strong female characters on the Starz pirate show. STARZ

OK, maybe the actual history of the place didn't work out so well for the pirates, but you can't deny that defying a superpower like England to try to have a free-ish society is a compelling story. It's fascinating to watch how people who would have been considered the dregs of society back home have carved out a city where they can do as they like. The madam of the island has more power than many dukes. A woman is running the joint. It's a society where you can start out as a minor thief or a deckhand and rise to power, captaining your own ship. It's a brutal life and a dangerous profession (and not exactly all that moral), but who doesn't love watching pirates?

The performances, the sets — everything is compelling. It's pretty racy though. This isn't one to watch with the kiddies, but that's what makes it work. This is no sanitized "Pirates of the Caribbean." It's dirty. It's gritty. There is lots and lots of sex. Honestly, how do you do a show about pirates without that?

Even better? There are a ton of really powerful, fully realized female characters here, some of them based on real women of the time. Check it out and tweet with me after the show each week! Pirates, you guys. Pirates!

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Getting Busy

Behind the scenes with Busy Philipps on the set of her second stylish short premiering today on LOFT.com. COURTESY OF LOFT

The actress channels Marie Kondo in a new short for LOFT.

ALLYSON FLORIDIA
@allysonfloridia
allyson.floridia@metro.us

No joke: Busy Philipps couldn't be busier.

While preparing for her role on HBO's upcoming comedy series "Vice Principles" with Danny McBride, the 36-year-old actress also stars in her second charmingly quirky video short for LOFT debuting online Thursday.

In the short, the "Cougar Town" alumna fully preps for the spring season — test driving Marie Kondo's method of decluttering and taking a ride on a kiddie-size swing set. Philipps had complete creative control of the short, and says it's a reflection of her real life popping up on the small screen.

"We've been in the middle of a giant house renovation for the last 10 months," the mother of two shares. "With the upstairs done, it's been a lot of putting things away and going through my daughters' clothes and paring down what doesn't fit them anymore and going through my own clothes."

While it might seem like an organizational nightmare, Philipps is confident she'll get through it. "My only issue [is that] I come from a family of collectors. I won't say hoarders," she admits. "And I can make the case for a lot of things bringing me joy. I recently found a part of cargo shorts that I've had since seventh grade and they still fit. I still wear them while gardening and I kind of refuse to get rid of them."

But what else is she holding onto this season? No surprise here — it's a classic: "I love a pair of white sneakers. They're very versatile," says Philipps. "And for me, when I'm in the city, it's really hard to wear sandals. For me, Soludos are really cute. They feel like you're wearing a sandal, but your feet aren't getting dirty."

Meanwhile, Philipps is also gearing up for "Vice Principals," in which she'll be playing Gail, the ex-wife of a high school's vice principal. Compared to her "Cougar Town" character — neighborhood novelty cake enthusiast, Laurie Keller — Philipps says Gail is a too much of a stretch.

"They're diametrically opposed. They're two sides of the same coin. They're a little bit, there's not a nice way of saying this — they're white trash," she explains. But the excitement is still there. "It was nice after playing Laurie, who I loved, and going to a show where I can do something different."

"Vice Principles" premieres on HBO in July; but you can check out Philipps' stylish spring cleaning short on LOFT.com now.

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Pigeons, the humble dinosaur

Trace the evolution of feathery lizards into modern birds at the American Museum of Natural History's new exhibit.

EVA KIS
@thisiskis
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Like every other New Yorker, pigeons didn't make it in this city without a lot of hustle. A few tens of millions of years, in fact.

They're just one species of bird among the 18,000 that can be traced directly back to dinosaurs at the American Museum of Natural History's latest exhibit, "Dinosaurs Among Us." And while curator Michael Novacek is not going to say he told you so — he told you so.

"When we opened the halls in the mid-'90s, the dinosaur exhibit had a flock of seagulls in the middle of it," recalls Novacek. "There were colleagues around who were saying, 'Ah, why did these people do this, this has gone too far to taint the minds of the public with this notion.' We've been validated."

That 1995 exhibit did hedge its bets, with signs warning that displays could contain inaccurate information. However, the new exhibit "illustrates brilliantly the reality of evolution," says Novacek, and instead of disclaimers there are meters — dinosaur ancestor at one end, modern bird at the other — to indicate where along the evolutionary chain a particular species belonged.

In those 21 years, the fossil record from dinosaurs to modern birds has been almost entirely filled in, and new technologies like CT scanning, robotics and genetic analysis have revealed new similarities such as building nests, brooding, superior lungs and large brains (contrary to popular belief — flight takes a lot of eye-wing coordination and adaptability).

Also: feathers. An overgrown kiwi bird may not be the stuff of Steven Spielberg movies, but "Dinosaurs Among Us" has several models, including a 23-foot-long tyrannosaur, covered in feathers — as most were. "There's a lot of different kinds of feathers preserved in the fossil record," says Ashley Heers, a post-doctoral researcher in paleontology whose discoveries contributed to the exhibit. Feathers didn't necessarily indicate flight, however. As in modern birds, they would have been useful in attracting a mate, making swimming easier and sun protection.

As far as developing the ability to fly, wings emerged late in the game, and the exhibit shows evolution isn't necessarily graceful: think feathered tails on a lizard-like body, and vice-versa. Heers says the technology to truly study flight has only come into existence within the last 10-20 years, like machines that can X-ray a flying bird and measure the aerodynamic forces they generate. And while there is a lot that goes into the ability to fly, "you don't actually need as much as we think we do," she says.

In tracing bird ancestry and flight back to dinosaurs, Heers has been studying juvenile birds, which lack adults' large wings, strong muscles and fully developed skeleton. "Since baby birds are doing all these cool things with their wings and they don't have all those features, it really begs the question of whether some of these extinct dinosaurs might also have been able to do similar behaviors with their wings," such as gliding, she says.

The more she discovered, the more Heers needed a new way to apply her data. She linked up with aeronautical engineers to use computer programs that build models of modern birds, which she then swaps out parts for fossils to see if they can still take off. Visitors can actually do their own version of this at the end of the exhibit.

'Dinosaurs Among Us'

March 21—Jan. 2, 2017
American Museum of Natural History
Central Park West and 79th Street
$22, AMNH.org

Oh, and pigeons? They don't just deserve props for hanging in there this long.

"I happen to be rather fond of pigeons," says Heers. "They spend a lot of time in the air, they can fly across the country, the can fly vertically, they're very acrobatic in the air, they display to each other in the air. So they're very good flyers — probably some of the best flyers out there, actually."

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Listings

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

St. Patrick's Day Parade

March 17, 11 a.m.
Fifth Avenue between 79th and 44th sts.
Free, NYCstpatricksparade.org
Lucky New Yorkers will be able to use their lunch break today for something a little more fun than their usual trip to the food cart. The St. Patrick's Day Parade runs along Fifth Avenue, passing St. Patrick's Cathedral, starting at 11 a.m. Called the "world's oldest and largest parade," it began as a way for Irish expats to celebrate their homeland in 1762.

Whiskey tasting

March 17, 3-4 p.m.
The Dead Rabbit, 30 Water St.
Free, Deadrabbitnyc.com
The world's best bar (they've got the hardware to prove it) is run by two boys from Belfast, so Irish whiskey is never far from their minds. On St. Patrick's Day, Tullamore D.E.W. is hosting a complimentary cocktail hour, with free signature drinks as well as whiskey tastings and beer pairings from 3-4 p.m. The corned beef sandwiches, lamb stew and live music are free all day.

St. Paddy's Luck of the Irish Pub Crawl

March 17, 5 p.m.-2 a.m.
Multiple locations
$7.77-$11.77, Pubcrawls.com
Anyone can dress in green and roam from tap to tap this St. Patrick's Day, but the St. Paddy's Luck of the Irish Pub Crawl gives your mission an air of authenticity — plus great drink specials. Choose from 11 meetup points, and be sure to register by 9 p.m. Then you're free to move between participating bars until 2 a.m.

FUNDRAISER

Coney Island USA 2016 Spring Gala

March 19, 8 p.m.-midnight
Coney Island USA
1208 Surf Ave., Brooklyn
$125-$200, Coneyisland.com
You may not know that your favorite site for beachside debauchery relies on public funding. Hence their annual gala, with a night of unlimited food, beer and wine, plus live music, burlesque and sideshow acts for $125, which goes toward the Mermaid Parade, Coney Island Film Festival and more. VIP tickets ($175) include an extra hour of merriment plus a swag bag.

HOLIDAY

Holi in the City

March 19 & 26, noon-7 p.m.
Stage 48, 608 W. 48th St.
$29.99, Stage48.com
After the hullabaloo for St. Paddy's Day dies down, you can keep the party going at Stage 48's two weekends of celebrating Holi, the Hindu spring festival. Besides the requisite colored powder-throwing, there will be boozy brunch (cash bar) and DJs spanning four floors — including the rooftop!

SHOPPING

Macy's Flower Show

March 20-April 3
Macy's Herald Square
151 W. 34th St.
Free, Macys.com/flowershow
You'll know spring is in bloom if you visit Macy's Herald Square next week. Macy's welcomes spring with storewide fanfare through its annual Flower Show. This year, the theme is "America the Beautiful," so we're guessing you'll see plenty of red, white and blue — plus, each floor will pay homage to the flora from various regions of the U.S.

MICHAEL BLASE

EASTER

Full Bunny Contact

March 22-27
La Tea Theater at The Clemente, 107 Suffolk St.
$5-$25, Fullbunnycontact.com
Holidays are not usually a time for competition, unless you think you can make a better pie than grandma. (And is this really the time to challenge her?) Except Easter, when the frilly outfits and all those spring vegetables were worth it for the egg hunt.

Those skills have probably been rusting for a while, but Full Bunny Contact is back to sharpen them with cage matches, sumo wrestling, jousting and more against giant, sadistic rabbits.

TRIVIA

'Parks and Recreation' Trivia

March 21, 8-9:30 p.m.
The Coliseum, 312 W. 58th St.
Free, Triviaad.com
How well do you know Pawnee, Indiana? "Parks and Recreation" Trivia gives you the chance to test your knowledge to win "all the bacon and eggs we have," according to organizers Trivia AD. There better be waffles, too, but we have a feeling Leslie would still show up for competition's sake.

COMING UP

Art of Yoga

March 26, 9:30 a.m.
Brooklyn Museum, 200 Eastern Parkway
$10-$25, Brooklynmuseum.org
Start your weekend with some mindful relaxation with a yoga session led by Faith Hunter in the beautiful Beaux-Arts Court before the museum is open to the public, with Maduka providing free mats. Wrap up with a meditation session with live music from a string trio presented by Groupmuse. Afterward, explore the exhibits — your ticket includes museum admission.

T. MICHELLE MURPHY

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5 Best children's museums in the US

Take the kiddos someplace where they can really enjoy learning.

Fodor's Travel

If you've ever brought a young child to an art museum, then you're all too familiar with the high-stakes anxiety involved — like keeping them from touching that prized Monet or from bumping into an ancient Egyptian sarcophagus.

We propose saving The Met for just a few more years, and taking your brood instead to a family-friendly children's museum, where just about everything is meant to be touched. Whether your kids are inspired by reptiles, outer space, skyscrapers or puzzles, our favorite children's museums offer plenty of ways to engage young minds.

For even more museums perfect for the litle ones, visit Fodors.com ISTOCK

Please Touch Museum

Where: Philadelphia
Located just outside Philadelphia's Center City in Fairmount Park, the Please Touch Museum, true to its name, welcomes kids to touch everything in sight. Housed in the Beaux Arts-style Memorial Hall, the museum has 157,000 square feet of hands-on exhibits. Kids can sip tea with the Mad Hatter in an "Alice in Wonderland"-themed area or ride a restored 1908 carousel.
Insider Tip: Fairmount is Philadelphia's biggest park, spanning more than 9,200 acres; stick around for its playgrounds and the Philadelphia Zoo.

Liberty Science Center

Where: Jersey City, New Jersey
The Skyscraper exhibit, where brave kids can walk across an I-beam suspended 16 feet above the floor, is the largest permanent display here. Also look for exhibitions centered on Hudson River wildlife, infections or even the Rubik's Cube, and stick around for the IMAX theatre.
Insider Tip: Liberty Science Center is home to over 110 species of animals, including the endangered cotton-top tamarin monkey.

Children's Museum of Indianapolis

Where: Indianapolis, Indiana
The Children's Museum of Indianapolis is often cited as one of the best children's museums in the country, and for good reason. Some of the most popular exhibits include Dinosphere, which showcases Leonardo, the mummified duckbill dinosaur, as well as Dracorex hogwartsia, a newly discovered dinosaur species.
Insider Tip: Look out for the museum's resident experts who regularly give talks like former astronaut David Wolf.

Boston Children's Museum

Where: Boston
Boston Children's Museum is credited with introducing the concept of "hands-on learning." Today the museum is also a LEED-certified green museum. Permanent exhibits include the Construction Zone, where kids can hop on a Bobcat; an authentic two-story Japanese house; and Johnny's Workbench, a family-friendly workshop area complete with tools and hardware.
Insider Tip: The museum is also famous for its giant Hood Milk Bottle landmark. It was originally crafted in 1943, and stands 40 feet high.

The Strong National Museum of Play

Where: Rochester, New York
Set in New York's Finger Lakes region, this museum is fully devoted to the power of play, utilizing play methods as a tool to explore topics like American culture and history. It's also home to the National Toy Hall of Fame and the International Center for the History of Electronic Games. All together, the complex hosts the world's largest collection of toys, dolls and games.
Insider Tip: Another perk of visiting: The museum houses a year-round indoor butterfly garden (an additional fee is required).
CHRISTINA VALHOULI

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Boston nights beyond the pubs

These institutes and cultural centers are opening their doors after hours.

REENA KARASIN
@reenakarasin
reena.karasin@metro.us

Looking for a fresh way to experience Boston's many cultural institutions? Check out these special events geared toward millennials happening this spring.

Third Thursdays at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

Enjoy music and a cash wine bar as you explore the courtyard garden and new wing at the Gardner. Artist talks and activities vary depending on the month. Upcoming themes include Celebrate Dance (March), Fashion Forward (April) and A New Light (May). Tickets are $15.

First Fridays at the Museum of Fine Arts

Start off the weekend with signature cocktails and tapas at the MFA each month from now through June. Tickets are $25, with food and drinks available for purchase.

Astronomy After Hours at the Museum of Science

In the mood for some stargazing? If the weather's good, you're in luck — the Museum of Science offers free access to the Gilliland Observatory every Friday night from the beginning of March through Thanksgiving.

First Fridays at the Institute of Contemporary Art

Every First Friday is different at the ICA. March's "Forever Young" theme will offer DJs spinning and a game room alongside the Walid Raad exhibit, while April's event — which falls on April Fools' Day — includes a performance by Improv Asylum. Tickets are $15.

First Fridays at SoWa Boston

Head to the South End and check out SoWa's many galleries, shops and restaurants on the first Friday of every month. Admission is free.

Glass Flowers Soiree at the Harvard Museum of Natural History

Check out the glass flowers exhibition and many more July 22, when the Harvard Museum of Natural History will open its doors and offer guests signature cocktails and music. Tickets are $25.

History of German Beer & Beer Tasting at the Harvard Art Museums

On May 12, guests can learn about the history of German brewing and the ways in which drinking has appeared in artwork while enjoying samples and snacks. Tickets are $55.

Seton Hall cut down the nets at the Big East tournament last weekend at MSG. GETTY IMAGES

New York area teams shoot for tourney glory

Previews of the locals' chances in the 2016 Big Dance.

MATT BURKE
@burke_metro
matthew.burke@metro.us

New York City still considers itself the mecca of basketball, and while this year's tournament will be void of a traditional city power like a St. John's or Manhattan, there will be several teams with relatively close proximity and ties NYC participating in the 2016 NCAA men's basketball tournament. A look at the locals:

Seton Hall

The Pirates have their highest seed in the tournament since the glory days under P.J. Carlesimo in the late 1980s and early 1990s. This year's group is also one of the hottest teams in the entire field as they sliced through the Big East Tournament last week at Madison Square Garden.

The Pirates are led by sophomore guard Isaiah Whitehead (18.4 ppg) and will play No. 11 Gonzaga Thursday at 9:57 p.m. (truTV).

Stony Brook

It's the first-ever NCAA tournament appearance for the Long Island school and it's been a long time coming in more ways than one. The Seawolves made their conference tournament championship game in four of the past five seasons but lost all four times. Of course, if you win your conference tournament, you get an automatic bid into the dance. Stony Brook is led by senior forward Jameel Warney (19.8 ppg) and will play powerhouse Kentucky on Thursday (9:40 p.m., CBS).

Iona

The boys from New Rochelle are led by A.J. English, who pumped in a cool 22.4 points per game this year. The Gaels have momentum on their side as they've won eight straight games. Their first round opponent, No. 4 Iowa State, went just 5-7 down the stretch. Iona will shoot for the upset at 2 p.m. on Thursday (TBS).

Alumni hooky alerts

UConn – The Huskies will take on Colorado in an 8-9 game on Thursday (1:30 p.m., TNT).

Syracuse – The Orange will shoot for an upset over No. 7 Dayton on Friday (12:15 p.m., CBS).

Yale – The Bulldogs will look to take down No. 5 Baylor on Thursday (2:45 p.m., CBS).

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NCAA Tournament: Pick these schools to pull off early upsets

Take a chance and win your bracket by picking high-profile upsets.

EVAN MACY
@evan_macy
evan.macy@metro.us

Last season there were four ridiculous, bracket-ruining upsets in the NCAA Tournament with teams like No. 14 UAB (over No. 3 Iowa State), and No. 14 Georgia State (over No. 3 Baylor) advancing in a crazy first two days.

With the most parity in a bracket in recent memory, the 2016 field of teams boasts the worst No. 1 seeds in history (none of them have fewer than four losses) and some of the strongest No. 2s.

We'll worry about picking a winner later. For now, here are five possible upsets to keep an eye on — or if you want to be bold, circle them on your bracket.

No. 12 South Dakota State over No. 5 Maryland

The Jackrabbits are a 12-seed despite ranking 28th in RPI. This means, ignoring conference affiliation or a few other indicators the selection committee uses to seed teams, they might be as good as a seven-seed on paper. Maryland is 14th in RPI and has played a battle-tested Big 10 schedule, but history has shown teams from conferences like the Summit League can thwart household names. South Dakota State is also 14-7 on the road or on a neutral court while Maryland is 9-7 in the same circumstance (with a losing record on the road).

No. 11 Northern Iowa over No. 6 Texas

Northern Iowa was inconsistent during its regular season, needing to win the Mountain Valley Conference Tournament to secure a bid. But look at their list of accomplishments: They beat No. 1 North Carolina, No. 5 Iowa State, No. 25 Wichita State (in two of three meetings) and are also 12-1 in their last 13. Facing the red-hot Panthers, Texas will have its hands full relying on a squad without top scorer and rebounder Cameron Ridley.

No. 13 Stony Brook over No. 4 Kentucky

That's right folks, Kentucky is at risk here. And you have Jameel Warney to thank. One of the nation's most underrated rebounders and scorers, the Seawolves' star is about to break into the mainstream looking to follow up his ridiculous 43 point, 10 rebound night over Vermont to win the America East Conference Tournament. Kentucky has been inconsistent during a down-season in the SEC. Watch out, Wildcat faithful.

Gonzaga's Kyle Wiltjer won't rest until the Zags rack up yet another deep NCAA Tournament run. GETTY IMAGES

No. 11 Gonzaga over No. 6 Seton Hall

Seton Hall has momentum on its side after a high-touted upset win against Villanova in the Big East finals. But Gonzaga has momentum as well — just Pacific Northwest, low-key momentum. The Zags are in their 18th straight NCAA Tournament and have won five straight. They are also following up last year's Elite 8 run with much of the same squad. The pressure could get to the Pirates, who are just happy to be in the field.

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NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION of The Chosen Cholent LLC. Application for Authority filed with the Secy. of State of New York (SSNY) on 02/01/2016. Office location: New York County. LLC formed in New Jersey on 03/08/2015. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC c/o 14 Pennsylvania Plaza, New York, NY 10122, the registered agent upon whom process may be served: 3 Dockery Drive, West Orange, NJ 07052. Arts. of Org. filed with the Secy. of State of New Jersey, New Jersey Dept. of State, P.O. Box 300 Trenton, NJ 08652. Purpose: any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of Exquisite Habitation LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secy. of State of New York (SSNY) on 03/11/2016. Office location: Queens County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC c/o 163-37 130th Ave., Apt. 2C, Jamaica, NY 11434. Purpose: any lawful activity.

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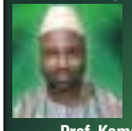

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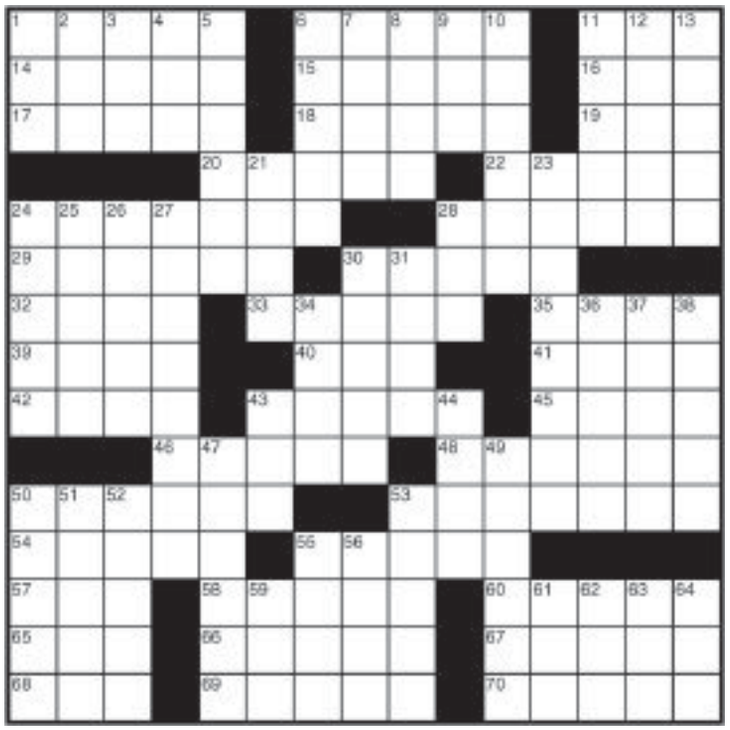

Across

1 "Nick of Time" singer
6 Light bulbs, in comics
11 Yellow vehicle
14 "The — of Wakefield"
15 Boisterous
16 Back when
17 Dive into second
18 Curved moldings
19 State-of-the-art
20 Emmy-winning Ed
22 Carnivore's delight (hyph.)
24 On good grounds
28 Check to make sure
29 Maria Conchita —
30 First-rate
32 Brain, maybe
33 Like tartan
35 Switch positions
39 Pantyhose shade
40 Fossil fuel
41 Thicken
42 The — the limit!
43 Bay
45 Bring on board
46 Zingy flavors
48 Emulate Hamlet
50 Oysters' yield
53 Damper
54 Lotte of "From Russia With Love"
55 Black eye
57 Joule fraction
58 Drifts
60 Buckles
65 Every breath you take
66 Spunk
67 Geologic period
68 "Miss Pym Disposes" author
69 Hits the cuspidor
70 Odin or Ra

Down

1 Campers, for short
2 Feel crummy
3 Here, in Paris
4 Tiny amount
5 Escalator parts
6 Wry humor
7 Old ruler of Venice
8 Big pitcher
9 Fruity drink
10 Organization
11 River paddler
12 Booster rocket
13 Showed respect
21 Spill over
23 Pins
24 Windmill blades
25 Noted wise guy
26 Queen's truck
27 Diligence
28 Get — of that junk!
30 Water holders
31 Irritate
34 Yearn for
36 Arrowhead rock
37 Vulcan had one
38 Rodeo mount
43 Advantages
44 McCloud's hometown
47 Sirens
49 Watched
50 Trouser feature
51 Paranormal, to some
52 Seeing red
53 Ruminates
55 Ankle-length
56 Skip over
59 Dinny's rider
61 Tarzan's nanny
62 Louis XIV, e.g.
63 Interest amt.
64 Bashful

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easy

	1		6	8		4	3	
			2		4	1		
					1	8	9	
			5			2		
		7	8	1	9	5		
		8			7			
	6	9	1					
		5	9		3			
	8	1		5	2		6	

hard

				4	7	8		
		1	3				6	
5				1	8		2	9
7				6		3		
	4						7	
		8		3				6
6	8		4	2				5
	1				6	2		
		3	1	7				

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Don't let emotional issues cloud your vision. Concentrate on what's important and what you are supposed to accomplish. Stay on track and you'll stay on top.

Taurus Home improvements will make your life easier and more comfortable. Participating in activities with family or friends will help you develop more intimate relationships.

Gemini Taking on nearly impossible responsibilities will cause disputes with people who have come to expect too much from you. Stop making promises that are overly difficult to keep.

Cancer Plan to enjoy what life has to offer with someone you love spending time with. A relaxing day filled with good conversation and shared dreams will lead to good times ahead.

Leo Take on a challenge that will test your skills and knowledge. You will discover the changes you need to implement in order to achieve a personal or professional goal.

Virgo Think matters through and head in a direction that will please everyone, including yourself. Balance and moderation will be a must if you plan to be successful.

Libra If you make certain adjustments, you will avoid an emotional confrontation. Once you have taken into account the needs of those affected by your choices, you'll be able to move forward.

Scorpio Socialize with people who have something unique to offer. Your ability to mirror the talents that others possess will bring unexpected compensation. Romance is highlighted.

Sagittarius Don't fold under pressure. Make it clear what you will and will not do. Walk away from any situation or person that might jeopardize your reputation or future progress.

Capricorn Share your feelings in order to find solutions. If you explore a certain relationship, you will find common ground that will lead to promising results.

Aquarius Pick up an old project and revamp it to suit current trends. Your originality will help you bring about change that will make a difference. Set a goal and follow through.

Pisces Use your imagination to guide you to creative people and projects that will inspire you to develop your own ideas and pursuits. Emphasize kindness in order to avoid disputes. EUGENIA LAST

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